# HE'S HEAP BIG INDIAN.

Strange Life History of Quanah Parker.

A POWER AMONG THE COMANCHES.

He Is the Son of a White Woman Who Was Captured by the Indians and Compelled to Marry a Chief-A Half Breed of Great Ability.

The story of Quanah Parker and his Comanches, of their last long struggle with the whites, their pacification, settlement on Red river and subsequent development, is as interesting as any episode in Indian history. The intrigues among the aspirants for power, the interference of United States officers and the final conplete ascendency of the most talented is but the old story of Greek and Trojan princes, highland clans and French feudatories over again. Human nature worked the

Vain was the chief's, the warrior's pride; They had no Homer, and they died.

General MacKenzie did the reconstruction act thoroughly for the tribe. After the Comanches had left their reservation in the Indian Territory and had been rounded up on the Texas plains two or three times at considerable expense and trouble and some bloodshed, MacKenzie deposed the chiefs, and by a decree of his own put Quanah Parker at the head of the Co-manche nation. At the same time he made the change effective by driving al of the surplus ponies of the nation-about 8,600 of them—into a defile of the Palo Duro canyon and slaughtering them. This last act was a lotle worse than tearing up the railroads in a hostile country. Railroads can be rapidly rebuilt. It takes time for a great herd of ponies to grow.

With sullen looks the Comanches footed It back to the reservation and at the same time accepted unwillingly the election of Quanah Parker from the ranks to the office of principal chief. The nation has remained upon the reservation ever since.



PARKER IN WAR COSTUME.

and Chief Parker's power has waxed until now his rule is that of a czar. But he tempers his government with a good deal of shrewiness. From the families of the deposed chiefs he has taken wives one after another until he has soven familles living in peace and unity under the roof of the big white house with wide galleries in the beautiful valley of the Washita.

His first journey among the whites cam-perilously near to being his last. He and his co-chief, Yellow Bear, one of his seven fathers in-law, went to Fort Worth, Tex., took a room together, and, tike another western dignitary of our own race, blewout the gas. When the door was broken open Yellow Bear was dead, and it took several dollars' worth of brandy and electricity to put Quanah on his feet again. He was worth all it cost and a great deal more, for he has made the Comanches one of the most tractable tribes in the Indian Territory; has secured for them the best land in the Red river valley; has induced them allies, the Kiowas, to take land in severalty-160 acres apiece-and sold the rest to the government at rates which give the tribe a permanent fund of \$2,000,000,

Such an Indian naturally excites a deal of curiosity, and on inquiry it transpires that he is only half Comanche. mother was a wnite woman, and her story and that of her family are among the suldest of border tragedies. Sixty years ago Elder John Parker, of Coles county, Ills., an experienced pioneer, led a small party to the region that is now Limestone county, Tex., and built a blockbouse which was the beginning of Fort Parker. The rest is the ofttold tale—a sudden attack in what was thought to be a time of peace and safety, the slaughter of all the men and captivity of the women and children, with all the sickening details of murder of infants which Americans have heard of since Hannah Dustin, of Haverhill.

In three years all the captives were recovered by negotiation with other Indians except Cynthia Ann Parker, aged nine and were caught and executed in various when taken, and her little brother John. The latter lived an Indian in all save color for many years, then married a Mexican girl who had been taken enptive and went to live with her relatives in Mexico. He returned to Texas on a visit just in time to get into the civil war, served through it as a Confederate soldier and then returned to his ranch beyond the Rio Grande. Twenty five years bad passed since the Fort Parker massacre, when Captain Sul Ross-since Governor Ross—surp ised and defeated the Comanches on Pease river. Their chief, Petanocona, was killed, and his wife and child were captured. That wife was Cyn this Parker, and that child was a younger sister of Quanah Parker.

For a year or two Cynthia had to be restrained to prevent her escape to her wild friends, but in time she became reconciled to civilization. Ten years later she died. and her daughter is a good Christian white woman in all save the half Indian blood. Her two sons grew up Comanches, and now the strange vicissitudes of Indian life have made Quanah a white man in habits when among the whites, but still a Comanche when at home.

### Dangers of Newspaper Work.

W. C. Cooper tells us the following story of his journalistic perils. He says: "I had several narrow escapes from violent death while engineering an afternoon paper in My foreman once got the suicide of a prominent citizen mixed up with a description of a new abattoir, and the result was appalling. Friends of the deceased insisted on shooting first and listening to explanations afterward. At another time he got a head intended for a double hanging over a swell wedding. It read as follows: 'Toughs turned off. A well mated large crowd witnessed the rites preceding purgatorial pains, Well, I hid in the chaparral for a month after that, thought my time was up, and I tried to get a little consolation from the Bible, but the book opened every time at the passage, 'Lo, the bridegroom cometh?' I didn't wait for him."

THE PERILS OF HEROISM.

How Explorers and Warriors Go Insane and Kill Themselves. "Don't be afraid, Aunt Stella. He is only in fun. He will not shoot."

These were the last words of pretty and sprightly Lotta Carpenter. As they died upon the air there was a stunning report, a bullet entered her brain, and she fell dead. James H. Bartlett, hero of the De Long expedition to the arctic regions, had be



J. H. BARTLETT.

come a raving maniac and murdered his niece. Next he seriously wounded his wife, and then sent a bullet into his own brain. All this at their home in Hampton place, San Francisco.

This is an old story—this of great heroes, after all their troubles and dangers are apparently over, dying by their own hands or in a petty quarrel. Thus did Clive, the illustrious baron of Plassey, who began life as a merchant's clerk and became the conqueror of India, die by his own hand at the age of forty-nine. Thus many heroes of the late civil war have made way with themselves, and the list of men who fought Indians in the far west, or as vigi-lantes "turned off" the condemned robbers and murderers, and afterward fell into hopeless melancholy and made away with themselves, is an appalling one. Very few systems are capable of standing such prolonged strain and the subsequent reaction.

Bartlett was fireman of the famous Jean-nette, and after escaping from the wreck was indefatigable in the search for Lieu-tenant De Long. He was always fond of taiking of his experiences in the arctic seas, and would tell with animation the many thrilling incidents of that wonderful journey-how he stood alone with Kuchne on the ice and saw the Jeannette go down; bow he was intrusted with the long dis-patch which Nindemann and Noros had prepared for the American minister at St. Petersburg, and how at last he had deliv-ered it into the hands of Melville. He was at the finding of all the dead bodies of his comrades except those of De Long, Dr. Ambler and the Chinese cook, Ah Sam. The story of his trip after he separated with Melville at Cass Carta, northeasterly to Point Barkin, then by the Lena Delta southward to Geeomovialocke, where be again fell in with Melville, is a volume in itself of daring and adventure that few men would care to undertake.

Some months ago his friends perceived that his mind was affected and warned his wife; but she thought it only tempo rary-due to an attack of the grip. A few days before the tragedy he complained of a borrible pain in his head. Miss Lotta Carpenter, a niece of Mrs. Bartlett and a native of Indiana, had come to live with them, and by her pleasant and sprightly ways had made many friends. He called her into the room where his wife lay on the bed, and with the expression, "Now we may as well all die together," drew a pistol and aimed it at her.

She spoke as quoted above, and the next instant was a corpse. He then shot his wife in the fleshy part of the right shoul der, and the next instant placed the muzzle of the revolver to his right car and fired a third shot. Death was instantane ous of course. Mrs. Bartlett will recover. There is little to add to this distressing story-only that there was not a couple living in San Francisco whose domestic happiness was more complete than was that of the Bartletts, but many stories of the man's strange behavior at times were affort, showing that his mind was unbal-

Superstitions About Mine Discoverers. There is a superstition prevalent in the gold fields of the west that the discoverer M. W. Kales, of a rich flud is sure to meet a violent end, and some thirty-five or forty instances in point are readily quoted. Out of the forty or less twelve were shot or stabled to death in saloons and other broils, five committed suicide, three were engulfed by landslides, five turned murdarers and robbers ways, one fell into a boiling spring and had the flesh literally stewed from his bones. while the others have disappeared, and no one knows what ever became of them. George H. Fryer, once the millionaire proprietor of the Fryer Hill mine, committed suicide in Denverafter spending the last nickel between himself and starvation. President. The discoverer of the great Standard mine, California, was caught and swallowed up in an avalanche. Colonel Story was killed

William Fairweather, of the famous "Alder Gulch mine," died with the "frenzied herrors" after a continuous two years' debauch. "Ferrell of Meadow Lake" died with a terrible disease in a San Francisco hospital. The owner of the great mine, the "Homestake," became a highwayman and was shot while robbing a stagecoach. John Homer tried the same route that Fryer went, "Doughnut Bill," "Nine Mile Clarke," "Old Eureka" and many others were killed in saloons. Plummer, known as "Montana," the discoverer of the richest mine in the world and at one "sheriff of the largest county in the United States," was finally hanged on his own scaffold.

Saw His Own Name Among the Killed. For many years before he shuffled off this mortal coil Constable David M. Southard, of Ellisburg, N. J., had the grewsome pleasure of reading his name on a tombstone, and this fact may have had comething to do with his taking his life. The primary cause for his rach act, however, was domestic trouble, which induced melancholia, and when some friends twitted him about the loss of his luxuriant whiskers, formerly his crowning joy, the hopeless old man went home and swal pair of brutes merrily meet their doom. A lowed laudanum. Southard was a brave oldier during the late war, and in the battle of Gettysburg he was taken prisoner and sent to Andersonville. During this time he was reported dead, and failing to return directly after the war his name was inscribed on the soldiers' monument that now stands in front of the Camden

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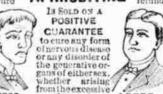
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Time Table.

## Maricopa & Phœnix R. R.

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PHIENIX STATIONS. Freig't and 7:15 p.m .... Phoenix,... 34,28 3:50 a, m. (4:45 p.m. 7,77 8:05 p.m. ....Tempe..... 26.51 3:20 a. m. 3:00 a. m. 8:50 p.m 16.16 ... \*Kyrene, ... 18.12 2 20.8, m. 9:25 p.m 26.66 ... \*Sacaton ... 7.62 1:45 a. m.

9:50 p. m 34.28 ... Maricopa... 1:20 a. m.

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10:55 P. M. DAILY, ATLANTIC EX Press for Tucson, Benson, Demine El Paso, San Antonio, Houston and New Orleans 8:15 P. M. DAILY, MIXED TRAIN FOR Yuma and intermediate stations. T. H. GOODMAN.

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